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The Critical Period 1763-1765. Edited by CLARENCE WALWORTH ALVORD, University of Illinois, and CLARENCE EDWIN CARTER, Miami University. Volume X of *Illinois Historical Collections Series*. VII+597 pp.

THIS book of sources is the first volume of the British series covering the period of Illinois history from 1763-1778. It presents in accessible form documents scattered from the Mississippi to London, and except in cases where the originals were not to be found, all were copied directly or verified from the originals. The editor's introduction to the volume covers the period of 1763-1765 in excellent manner. The Sir William Johnson letters are of especial value since the loss of the Johnson manuscripts in the Albany fire. The documents are grouped under chapter headings, which serves to break the monotony often found with mere chronological arrangement. The eleven chapters deal with The Organization of the Western Territory, March to December, 1763; Banishment of the Jesuits; Proposed Colony of Charlottina; The Journal of M. Dabbadie, 1763-1764; Major Loftus' Attempts to Reach the Illinois, December 5, 1763, to April 9, 1764; Accounts from the Illinois, April 4, 1764, to June 29, 1764; The Regulation of Indian Affairs, July 10, 1764, to November 9, 1764; Letters About the Indians, October 8, 1764, to November 9, 1764; Close of the Indian War, November 9, 1764, to January 16, 1765; British Messengers are Sent to the Illinois Country, January 13, 1765, to February 24, 1765; The First British Agents Reach the Illinois Country, February 25, 1765, to July, 1765. The appendix contains a number of letters discovered too late to be printed in the proper places. The volume contains photogravures of Sir William Johnson, and General Gage, and some photographs of early trade licenses, etc. A complete index makes the volume very usable.

R. C. BULEY.

County Archives of Illinois. By THEODORE CALVIN PEASE, University of Illinois. In *Illinois Historical Collections*, Vol. XII, Bibliographical Series Vol. III. Published by Trustees of Illinois State Historical Library. Springfield, Illinois. pp. 730. 1915.

IT is difficult to appreciate the amount of time and labor which a compilation of this sort entails. Convinced that the sources for the history of the State would be incomplete without a detailed account